BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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| Barbara Beerhalter | Chair |
| Harry Seymour Crump | Commissioner |
| Cynthia A. Kitlinski | Commissioner |
| Robert J. O'Keefe | Commissioner |
| Darrel L. Peterson | Commissioner |

In the Matter of the Complaint Against Northwestern Bell Telephone Company By the Minnesota Builders Association
        In the Matter of the Complaint Against Northwestern Bell Telephone Company By Michael Ives

ISSUE DATE: 11-13-87

DOCKET NO. P-421/C-87-610

DOCKET NO. P-421/C-87-680
ORDER DIRECTING CHANGES IN NORTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY'S TARIFF REGARDING DEMARCATION POINTS FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On December 31, 1986 the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) entered an order providing for the deregulation of the installation and maintenance of inside wiring and house riser cable. Docket No. P-999/CI-86-747. That order, and the proceeding leading to it, resulted from a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Order in FCC Docket 79-105 dated February 24, 1986. The FCC Order deregulated inside wiring and prohibited state regulation of inside wiring as of January 1, 1987.

In its Order implementing the FCC decision, the Commission deregulated not only inside wiring, but house riser cable as well. It also set forth general principles regarding the placement of demarcation points, the points separating equipment belonging to the telephone company from equipment belonging to its customers. The general rule set forth in the Order was that demarcation points would be established by mutual agreement at or near the place where the telephone company's facilities entered the customer's building or property. Order, paragraph 4.

The Commission recognized that establishing new policies of such magnitude was sure to result in unforeseen problems. The Order therefore provided that disputes regarding the location of demarcation points or access to telephone companies' facilities should be brought to the Commission through its regular complaint process. Order, paragraph 4.